

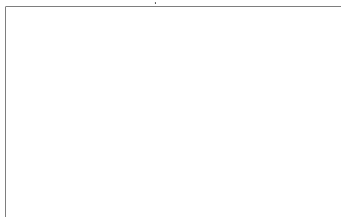
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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
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**PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT**

**GROUND FORCES SUMMARY
SINKIANG AUTONOMOUS REGION
CHINA**



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SEPTEMBER 1972

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SUBJECT : Ground Forces Summary, Sinkiang Autonomous Region, China
Dated September 1972

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GROUND FORCES SUMMARY
SINKIANG AUTONOMOUS REGION, CHINA

ABSTRACT

1. This summary of ground forces activity in Sinkiang Autonomous Region between January 1971 and April 1972 is based on KEYHOLE photography which covered approximately 75 percent of the region. The report consists of a map, text, a table, and six photographs.

INTRODUCTION

2. Ground forces activity increased in Sinkiang Autonomous Region from January 1971 to April 1972. During that time, the total number of ground force weapons observed increased from 44 to 411. The increased total provides enough weaponry to equip at least an antiaircraft artillery (AAA) division, an armored regiment, and six field artillery (FA) regiments.¹ In addition, 34 installations containing ground forces weapons have been newly identified. Most of this activity has occurred in seven areas (Figure 1).

BASIC DESCRIPTION

3. The activity includes the deployment of units and equipment to border areas and along lines of communication. The units are generally company-to-battalion size. Some regimental-size units have also been observed deployed in facilities still under construction. Most of the facilities are in rugged or mountainous terrain with no attempts made to camouflage or conceal them. The deployment is apparently permanent since tent camps and other temporary facilities are being replaced by permanent barracks and support facilities (Figure 2).

4. Extensive ground forces activity has occurred in the Dzungarian Gate and Sui-ting areas, both natural access routes into China from the Soviet Union. New units of FA and AAA, all of at least battalion size, are in the Omin/To-li (Figure 3), Tu-shan-tzu, and Hsin-yuan areas, and a regimental-size FA unit is at Pai-cheng. A previously identified battalion-size FA unit is at Sui-ting, and a new AAA regiment is at Ku-che. Tanks and tracked vehicles were at Tu-shan-tzu and in the Hsin-yuan area. These six areas form a rough semicircle around the Dzungarian Gate for 100 nautical miles (nm) to the north and east, and 250 nm to the south.

5. The largest increases have occurred in the vicinity of Wu-lu-mu-chi, the regional capital and the terminal point for the only rail line serving northwest China. A division-size AAA unit, a regimental-size armored unit, and at least five regimental-size FA units have been identified. The weapons were deployed in a semicircle approximately 25 nm southwest of town. No concentrations were observed east of town. Wu-lu-mu-chi Barracks AL 15 [redacted] and Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks AL 21 [redacted] together house a probable artillery regiment equipped with probably D-20 model (152mm) gun-howitzers (Figures 4-6). A dispersed regimental-size artillery unit was observed at Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks AL 20 [redacted] and can be broken down into at least 12 company areas (Figure 7).

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6. Table 1 lists ground forces weapons located at installations within the seven areas of the region since January 1971. The weapons are limited to FA pieces, armored and tracked vehicles, and AAA pieces with associated control equipment.

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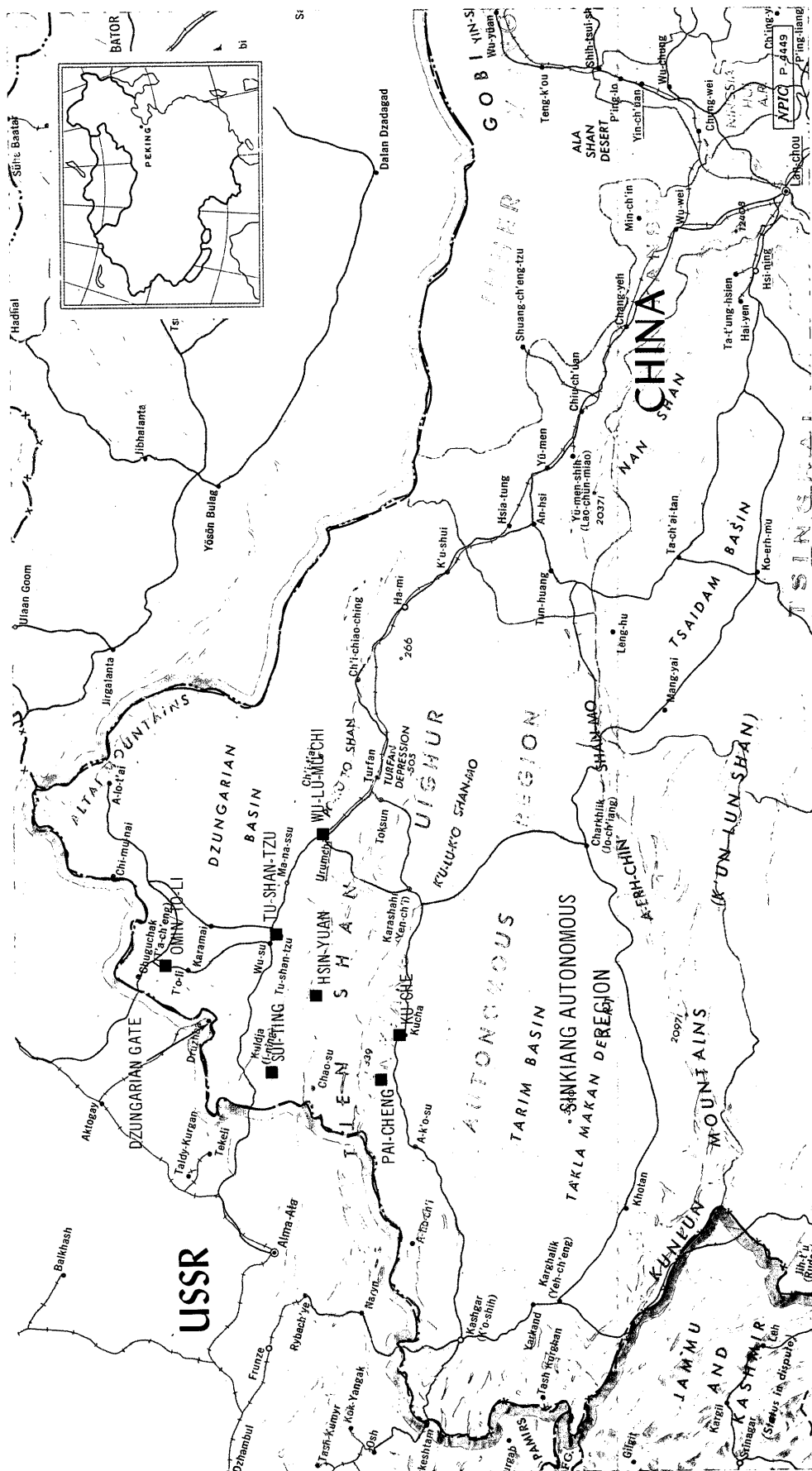


FIGURE 1. AREAS OF GROUND FORCES ACTIVITY

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Table 1. Ground Forces Weapons at Installations in Sinkiang Autonomous Region, China

<u>Installation</u>								<u>Remarks</u>
OMIN/TO-LI AREA								
Omin Barracks and Storage Area <div></div> (Figure 3)	NC*	18 FA	NC	NC	18 FA	18 FA (85mm)	Battalion-size unit	
To-li Barracks Area <div></div>	NC	4 AAA 1 poss FIRE CAN	NC	NC	NC	NC	Possible battalion	
To-li Barracks and Storage Area <div></div>	NC	8 AAA 1 poss FIRE CAN	NC	NC	NC	NC	Possible battalion	
TU-SHAN-TZU AREA								
Tu-shan-tzu Barracks and Storage Area <div></div>	NC	2 FA	8 type-62 tanks 12 FA	2 FA	ND	ND	Battalion-size unit	
Ai-pu-tieh Military Area <div></div>	NC	6 FA	NC	NC	NC	NC	Company training exercise	
Peng-tu-ling-tsun Barracks 11 AAA Area AL 2** <div></div>		NC	NC	NC	ND	NC	Possible battalion	
SUI-TING AREA								
Sui-ting Army Barracks AL 2** <div></div>	ND	7 FA	ND	ND	ND	18 FA (85mm)	Battalion size unit	

*NC - Not covered; ND - None discernible

**Identified prior to January 1971

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Installation								Remarks
HSIN-YUAN AREA								
Hsin-yuan Army Barracks 1	NC	6 FA	NC	NC	14 tracked vehicles	NC		Probable battalion
A-lu-tu-no Barracks Area	NC	13 FA	NC	NC	ND	NC		Battalion-size unit
Hsin-yuan Army Barracks 2	NC	17 AAA 1 poss FIPH CAN	NC	NC	18 AAA	NC		Battalion-size unit
PAI-CHENG AREA								
Pai-cheng Army Barracks AL 1**	ND	ND	ND	12 FA	NC	ND		Battalion-size unit
Pai-cheng Military Barracks Area West	NC	37 FA	NC	13 FA	NC	ND		Regimental-size unit
KU-CHE AREA								
Ku-che Military Barracks Area	42 AAA	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC		Regimental-size unit
Pao-chai-tien Military Facility	NC	8 AAA (85mm)	NC	NC	NC	NC		Battery training exercise
Hu-tu-pi Radio Station**	NC	14 mortars	NC	NC	ND	NC		--
Wu-lu-mu-chi Munitions Storage	ND	ND	4 FA	ND	ND	NC		In storage

Ching-hua Barracks Area	NC	4 mortars	NC	NC	ND	NC	--	25X1
								25X1
Chang-chi Military Area	NC	4 FA	NC	NC	NC	NC	Company-size unit	25X1
Lo-tu-i Military Facility WSW	NC	4 FA	NC	NC	NC	NC	Company-size unit	25X1
Lo-tu-i Military Facility	NC	4 FA	NC	NC	NC	NC	Company-size unit	25X1
Ta-shih-ku-li Military Facility	NC	12 FA	NC	NC	NC	NC	Possibly in transit	25X1
Lo-ko-lun Military Facility	NC	10 FA	NC	NC	NC	NC	Probable battalion	25X1
Chien-te Probable Military Facility SE	NC	6 FA	NC	NC	NC	NC	Company-size unit	25X1
Chien-te Military Facility	NC	6 FA	NC	NC	NC	6 FA 6 AAA	Company-size unit	25X1
Wu-lu-mu-chi Armor Installation AL 2	NC	24 tanks	NC	NC	ND	ND	Battalion-size unit	25X1
Wu-lu-mu-chi Armor Installation AL 1	NC	8 tanks, 24 tanks/assault guns	NC	NC	ND	ND	Battalion-size unit	25X1
WU-LU-MU-CHI AREA								25X1
Wu-lu-mu-chi Military Installation	NC	6 AAA	NC	NC	ND	5 tanks, 9 APC, 2 poss SU-76, and 2 ARV	Possible armor	25X1

Installation							Remarks
Wu-lu-mu-chi Barracks Area West	NC	18 FA	NC	NC	ND	NC	Regiment, possibly organic to an infantry division
Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Camp (Figure 2)	NC	20 FA	NC	NC	12 FA	15 FA	Probable regiment
Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks AL 22	NC	4 FA	NC	NC	ND	4 FA	Possible battalion
Wu-lu-mu-chi Barracks Area WSW	NC	15 AAA	NC	NC	12 AAA	NC	Battalion- size unit
Wu-lu-mu-chi Barracks Area SSW	ND	ND	ND	17 AAA	ND	NC	Battalion- size unit
Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks AL 23	NC	22 FA	NC	NC	12 FA	ND	Regimental- size unit
Wu-lu-mu-chi Barracks AL 15 (Figures 4 and 5)	NC	16 gun- howitzers	NC	NC	20 gun- howitzers 8 poss FA	4 gun- howitzers	Forms regi- mental-size unit with Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks AL 21
Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks AL 21 (Figure 6)	NC	16 gun- howitzers	NC	NC	12 gun- howitzers	32 gun- howitzers	Part of regimental- size unit

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Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks AL 20 (Figure 7)	NC	28 FA	NC	NC	22 FA	NC	Regimental-size unit
Wu-lu-mu-chi Ammunition Storage Depot	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	31 FA	In storage
Wu-lu-mu-chi Army Barracks**	24 AAA	18 AAA	NC	NC	NC	NC	Battalion-size unit
Chang-chi Airfield**	ND	ND	90 AAA	ND	ND	ND	Probable divisional exercise

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REFERENCES

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DOCUMENT

1. DIA. DI-220-1-72, Tables of Organization and Equipment
Peoples Republic of China Army, Jan 72 (UNCLASSIFIED)

REQUIREMENT

NPIC/IEG/EGD/WCB Project 1202010H

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